



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jacob Coin
Office of Public Affairs
(909) 864-8933
jcoin@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

SAN BERNARDINO BLACK CULTURE FOUNDATION HONORS TRIBAL CHAIRMAN
Chairman Ramos to Receive Black Rose Award at Dinner

San Manuel Indian Reservation (Highland, Calif.) – September 10, 2009 - [The](#) San Bernardino Black Culture Foundation announced today that the Honorable James Ramos, Chairman of the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians, will receive the prestigious Black Rose Award at their annual Black Rose Humanitarian and Community Service Awards banquet on Friday, September 11, 2009, at the National Orange Show. This is the first time that this award is being given to a Native American Leader.

The San Bernardino Black Culture Foundation is a non-profit organization with a mission to preserve cultural identity in the city of San Bernardino by highlighting the achievements of African American leaders in the community and to provide educational opportunities for underprivileged youth in San Bernardino.

The San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians has been in support of the Foundation for several years through a strong partnership with Mrs. Margaret Hill, Executive Advisor to the Foundation and current Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services for San Bernardino County Schools.

"I am humbled by this great honor, our society is rich with cultural diversity," Chairman Ramos said. "We at San Manuel believe there is great strength in celebrating the various cultures that are alive in the San Bernardino region. We will continue to recognize the contributions of all cultures that make our world a better place."

The Black Rose Humanitarian and Community Service Award is given annually to individuals that are highly committed to serving the community and local youth in San Bernardino.

About the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as sovereign nation with the right of self-government. Since time immemorial, the San Manuel tribal community has endured change and hardship. Amidst these challenges the tribe continued to maintain its unique form of governance. Like other governments it seeks to provide a better quality of life for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services and promoting social, economic and cultural development. Today San Manuel tribal government oversees many governmental units including the departments of fire, public safety, education and environment.

###